

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 6-10, 12, 13, 15, 17, 19-23, 25, 27-31, 33-42, and 45-49 are pending, with Claims 1, 6-10, 12-13, 15, 17, 19-23, 25, 27-31, 33-42, and 45-49 having been amended, and Claims 2-5, 11, 14, 16, 18, 24, 26, 32, 43, and 44 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for the amendment to Claims 1, 6-10, 12-13, 15, 17, 19-23, 25, 27-31, 33-42, and 45-49 is found, for example, at page 5, lines 18-30, and page 14, line 29 to page 30, line 11. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 1-4, 6-10, 15-17, 19-23, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Comstock (U.S. Patent No. 6,704,769) in view of Da Palma (U.S. Patent No. 6,874,020); and Claims 12-14, 23, and 27-49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Comstock and Da Palma, and further in view of Ismael (U.S. Patent No. 6,061,721).

With respect to the rejection of Claim 1 as unpatentable over Comstock and Da Palma, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to Claim 1 overcomes this ground of rejection. Amended Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*,

a device access layer interfaced with the management adapter and the video teleconferencing devices, the device access layer representing the plural video teleconferencing devices as Management Beans to support management of the plural video teleconferencing devices through the management adapter during set-up or conduct of an active video teleconference, each of the Management Beans being configured to perform a protocol conversion between a native protocol of one of the plural video teleconferencing devices and a management interface protocol used by the management adapter, wherein

each of the plural video teleconferencing devices have a corresponding type, the device access layer associating the Management Beans in classes, with each of the classes being

associated with a respective type of the plural video  
teleconferencing devices.

Applicants respectfully submit that Comstock and Da Palma, taken alone or in proper combination, do not disclose or suggest every element of amended Claim 1.

Comstock describes a system, apparatus, and method for managing media in a multimedia conferencing system according to media roles. Each media stream may be explicitly labeled with a role that describes the function or purpose of the stream, such as “people” or “content.” A policy manager is provided to manage the different roles.

Policy manager 136 implements a policy for displaying media streams bearing labels according to roles (people or content). The policy manager may implement a policy for displaying media streams bearing the labels “people” and “content.” For example, content might be directed to the content display 152 and people may be directed to the people display 154. The policy manager may permit a user to select, through a user interface 138, any number of people to display through a people display 154 and may allow the user to select specific participants for display. The policy manager may allow for establishment of a picture-in-picture display. The policy manager 136 may also require that only one content source may be selected at a certain time. The policy manager may further require that all participating terminals display content on their own local content displays.

However, Comstock does not disclose or suggest the claimed the above-noted elements of Claim 1. Comstock is merely directed toward the labeling of various media streams. Comstock does not describe or suggest the use of Management Beans as described in amended Claim 1.

Furthermore, Da Palma does not cure the above-noted deficiencies in Comstock. Da Palma describes a method and system of remotely managing an application distributed across multiple application hosts. Da Palma describes the JMX architecture, which includes a management interface referred to as a managed bean (MBean).

The system of Da Palma can include an application manager, a master agent, and a plurality of mini-agents that can communicate management commands directed to manageable resources. The application manager can issue management commands to the master agent which, in turn, can direct the management commands to appropriate mini-agents for ultimate delivery to the manageable resources residing in various, separate application hosts.

The Beans shown in Da Palma are not in a device layer, where the device layer associates the Management Beans in classes, with each of the classes being associated with a type of videoconferencing device. Fig. 3 of Da Palma does not show that the MBeans are associated into classes that are associated with a type of videoconference device.

Furthermore, Da Palma does not disclose or suggest that the MBeans perform a protocol conversion between a native protocol of one of the plural video teleconferencing devices and a management interface protocol used by the management adapter. The JMX protocol adapters of Da Palma do not equate to a Management Bean.

Thus, Da Palma does not disclose or suggest the above-noted elements of Claim 1.

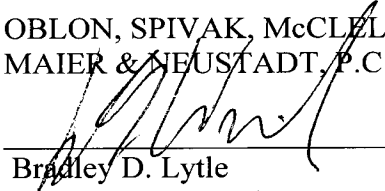
As Comstock and Da Palma do not disclose or suggest the above-noted elements of Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that a person of ordinary skill in the art could not properly combine Comstock and Da Palma to arrive at the claimed invention.

In view of the above-noted discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 1 (and any claims dependent thereon) patentably distinguish over Comstock and Da Palma, taken alone or in proper combination. Claims 15, 20, 25, 27, 36, and 45 recite elements similar to those of Claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 15, 20, 25, 27, 36, and 45 (and any claims dependent thereon) patentably distinguish over Comstock and Da Palma, taken alone or in proper combination, for at least the reasons stated for Claim 1.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and in light of the previous discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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